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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Stephen E. Mead

Group Art Unit: 2645

Serial No.:

09/829,887

Examiner: Escalante Ovidio

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RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

MAIL STOP NON-FEE AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Arlington, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

In response to the non-final Office Action mailed December 18, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows, and re-consider the application in view of the following amendments and remarks:

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS begin on page 2 of this paper; and REMARKS begin on page 11 of this paper.